



# Arizona Department of Public Safety **DIGEST**

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'Courteous Vigilance'

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## **Proclaiming "checkmate"**

Director Roger Vanderpool speaks at the March 28 press conference outside of the DPS Headquarters Building in Phoenix to announce the preliminary results of GIITEM's "Operation Checkmate." Leaders of other Arizona law enforcement agencies that are participating in the operation also spoke at the press conference as did City of Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon.

## **GIITEM announces three-month "checkmate" of Arizona gangs**

by Kellen Chavez  
Digest Staff Writer

In a simplified point of view, the war on gangs can resemble a chess game.

A wide array of pieces each have different movements, responsibilities and strengths that contribute to overall strategy.

Moreover, each player must also balance his or her attack against anticipating counter moves to the opponent's attack.

The DPS administered Gang and Immigration Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) task force recently took unprecedented, proactive measures to swing the momentum in the battle against Arizona gangs back to cooperating and determined Arizona law enforcement agencies.

At a press conference on March 28, GIITEM announced the initial results for "Operation Checkmate," an operation created in response to the violent and lethal actions taken by gang members against Arizona police officers in 2007.

DPS Lt. Fred Zumbo of GIITEM said, "What we did was we ran all known gang members in our database. We crunched the numbers against ACJIS, the wanted warrants, and we came up with a number of about 5,000 outstanding warrants statewide that were gang members. That's a huge number and we were shocked."

Starting Dec. 10, 2007, GIITEM decided to devote an incredible amount of effort towards serving as many of those 5,000 arrest

warrants as possible.

Even with the Super Bowl causing manpower constraints, by March 28 GIITEM had arrested 483 of the gang members with active arrest warrants.

Director Roger Vanderpool said, "Those arrested are known criminals, and it makes sense to apprehend these individuals who mock the criminal justice system by absconding. It's sort of like weeding your garden,

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## **Effective May 31, changes will be made to DPS executive staff**

A number of sworn command personnel are scheduled to retire from DPS over the next few months, including Deputy Director David Felix.

In an announcement released April 10, Director Roger Vanderpool said these approaching retirements will result in some key changes to the Department's Executive Staff which will be effective on May 31.

Pennie Gillette-Stroud, who is currently chief of the Criminal Investigations Division,

will be promoted to Deputy Director.

Cmdr. David Denlinger will promote and replace Gillette-Stroud as chief of the Criminal Investigations Division.

The other three chiefs, Jack Lane, Mike Longman and Georgene Ramming, will remain in their respective positions.

David Felix will remain with the Department and serve as Executive Officer in the Director's Office as a member of Vanderpool's executive management team.

**From Director**  
**Roger L. Vanderpool's**  
***Vantage Point***



Effective May 31, the Department's Executive Staff will welcome new faces albeit with the same focus and determination to serve DPS to the fullest of their abilities.

Pennie Gillette-Stroud, former chief of the Department's Agency Support Division and, most recently, Criminal Investigations Division, will take over for David Felix as deputy director.

Cmdr. David Denlinger will fill the vacancy as chief of the Criminal Investigations Division.

While the agency will miss Felix's service as the deputy director, he will not be far away as he will assume the position of executive officer in the Director's Office.

In this position, DPS will retain his invaluable experience and expertise, as he continues to serve as a resource for myself and my executive staff. His new position will also bring with it new responsibilities in support of the director's office and the department.

While I have always stressed the healthy need for rotation and new experience for all of the Department's executive management staff, DPS currently faces an economy and budget picture where the best course of action requires minimal disruption and the most experienced, qualified people in positions where his or her strengths and talents can best be realized.

Arizona faces a significant budget challenge for the immediate future. As a result, DPS will feel some impact in its own budget which will require careful, prudent management.

So in dealing with these challenges, I want to encourage all of you to take ownership for our budget and do your part to help conserve fuel, utilities and all department resources whenever possible.

By working together, we can make a significant impact in the process of bringing financial stability back to the State.

Even with the impending changes and demands made for our services, we will continue diversifying the experience of our personnel and make changes as our mission requires.

I thank you all for your continued support of me as director and of the department's executive management team.

***For the record***  
**Crime Lab helps ID Chandler rapist through DNA analysis**

The DPS Crime Lab worked closely with Chandler Police Department Detectives over the last year to utilize DNA to identify the Chandler Rapist, who was preying on young women in that city.

In early 2007, the Crime Lab linked the same suspect, now called the Chandler Rapist, to two separate sex assaults in Chandler. The DNA showed the same, unidentified suspect had committed both crimes.

Recognizing a serial criminal was loose in the city, a massive effort was undertaken to locate the rapist, therefore, Chandler began submitting knowns from suspects to the Crime Lab for comparison to the crime scene evidence.

Ultimately, 342 potential suspects were eliminated through DNA profiling. When added to the various crime scene items, over 400 items were analyzed, and many hundreds of hours of DNA analyst time was invested.

On Friday afternoon, January 11, 2008, Chandler Detectives developed a promising suspect, and DPS DNA Analysts worked overnight to complete the DNA profiling on this important case. The DNA profile, available by 9:00 a.m. the following morning, identified the suspect as the Chandler Rapist, allowing charges to be filed for the serial sex assaults.

## **SPAM still problematic at DPS**

by Sloane Burwell

DPS Lotus Notes Administrator

Every day, DPS receives an average of 20,000 pieces of e-mail from the Internet. On average, over 18,000 of them are stopped by our anti-spam software. That's an increase of mail sent from 6 months ago. Unfortunately, the spammers are working overtime and there is not an end in sight. However, we can continue to tighten our system to reduce the amount of spam that reaches DPS by following these tips.

1. Never forward chain e-mails, especially if they say things like 'must be forwarded to 10 people' or 'a wish will be granted in 2 days if you forward to 5 friends'. This is how spammers harvest email addresses. You greatly increase your likelihood of receiving spam if you do this. Ever receive a delivery failure message for an e-mail

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*The Digest* can be accessed directly from the DPS World Wide Web home page at <http://www.azdps.gov/digest>.

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## Inaugural Arizona Gang Investigators conference held in March

by Kellen Chavez  
Digest Staff Writer

From March 25 through March 27, the first ever Arizona Gang Investigators Association (AZGIA) conference was held at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel in Phoenix.

DPS Lt. Andy Vasquez, who serves on the board of directors, said, "This is something that we've been trying to do in the local Phoenix area for the last 15-20 years, to get a gang investigator association. Last year, we started to try to really get it going."

What originally started as a 20-member association has swelled to over 650 members since the conference. The only requisite for joining is being a police officer.

Vasquez said the biggest focus of the conference had to be the quality of the curriculum.

"There are conferences all over the world featuring attractions like Disneyland and Disneyworld which have a big draw. There is no similar draw here. So our draw here had to be the curriculum itself, the course content. We did several things, we brought who we thought were some of the best instructors in the nation in to teach."

Those instructors taught on everything from migration trends and Internet issues to tattoo recognition and mafia issues.

The most rewarding experience for attendees was a six-hour presentation that walked through the life of a man from his first gang experience up until he joined a prison gang while behind bars.

"We were trying to show what obstacles to intervene if you want to stop the



### AZGIA Conference

Hundreds of law enforcement officers from around the country attended the inaugural Arizona Gang Investigators conference held in late March.

kid's development at any given point in time. It was different because I don't know of a conference where they've put together and consolidated [a gang member's life] in chronological order," Vasquez said.

The curriculum took the entire 10 months of planning to put together. The conference even attracted attendees from as far away as New York and Hawaii. A total of 450 law enforcement officers attended the actual conference.

In addition to planning the 2009 conference, the AZGIA hopes to perform other services throughout the year.

Vasquez said the AZGIA wants to bring training and services to smaller agencies throughout the state once a quarter.

Moreover, the AZGIA gives gang en-

forcement a definitive central voice when dealing with reporters or legislators.

Vasquez said, "In the past, depending on which legislator and which newspaper person wanted the information, they may have gone to people with conflicting ideas and messages. So this is going to be a place where they can come to and all of our voices are filtered into one message.

"Not to mention the collaboration, it gives us a place to put up information about gangs and we can share information and answer questions anyone might have."

At the conference, Vasquez was given a lifetime achievement award for his career work in gang enforcement. DPS Officer Fred Banks was also given the Courage Award, for his undercover work with gangs.

## IIMPACT brings new kind of fight against illegal immigration

by Kellen Chavez  
Digest Staff Writer

On March 6, officers from the Phoenix Police Department responded to a shooting in south Phoenix near 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Broadway Road.

Further investigation led officers to believe the complex was a possible drop house, used as a halfway point for illegal immigrants before their final destination.

The officers called in the Illegal Immigration Prevention and Apprehension Team, better known as IIMPACT, for further investigation.

In the end, four separate apartments were used to house 38 illegal immigrants, one of which told IIMPACT detectives that

he had been held there for 17 days and was beaten while his family was extorted for \$2,000.

For IIMPACT, this was just one of seven drop houses seized in March resulting in the arrest of 17 suspects and discovery of 126 undocumented aliens (UDAs).

In response to Gov. Janet Napolitano's aggressive stance and initiatives toward illegal immigration in 2006, DPS has had to greatly expand its operational versatility in immigration enforcement.

The most significant expansion has been the creation of the Immigration Enforcement District which includes IIMPACT Arizona!, a multi-agency and multi-jurisdiction project managed by GIITEM specifically tar-

geting organizations that profit from illegal immigration.

Involving cooperation between DPS, the Phoenix Police Department and Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), IIMPACT, consisting of 18 detectives and three supervisors, is the most significant addition to the ongoing fight against human smugglers.

Lt. Tim Chung, who oversees operations in the Immigration Enforcement District, said, "Our goal is to, again, deter, disrupt and dismantle violent criminal organizations that profit from human smuggling."

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# Arizona Department of Public Safety

## Dispatchers at DPS recognized in April

Dispatchers and call takers assigned to the Department's Operational Communications Bureau were given extra thanks and appreciation for their efforts at work during National Telecommunicators Week which began April 13.

Dispatchers and emergency call takers, including those at DPS, have been given special recognition during this week since 1991 when a Congressional and Presidential proclamation declared the second week in April for recognition of the public safety dispatchers and 9-1-1 call takers throughout the United States.

Because those assigned to DPS' Operational Communications Bureau work behind the scenes and have jobs so critically important to the minute-by-minute safety of the public and the agency's officers, they are the "unsung heroes" of the agency.

In FY 2007, employees within DPS' Operational Communications Bureau answered over 223,000 emergency 9-1-1 calls and dispatched over 700,000 calls for service to DPS officers.

## Raymond Hamilton retires from DPS after serving more than 30 years

Raymond Hamilton retired from DPS on Dec. 28, 2007, after serving the agency for more than 30 years.

Hamilton began his career with the Department on Sept. 4, 1977, as a patrolman in Kingman. In 2000, he accepted a transfer to the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau.

He served in this capacity for the remainder of his career in the Kingman area.

In his official retirement letter, Director Vanderpool said, "Your retirement leaves a void in this Department as you move on. Your wealth of information and experience in your field has been invaluable to all who worked with you throughout your career. Too often, public service is not adequately recognized.

"Its only reward at times is the sense of satisfaction you receive from a job well done. On your retirement, all of us in the organization extend our sincere appreciation for your conscientious performance of duty and unflagging dedication to this Department and to the state of Arizona.

"You will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by all of us in the Depart-

ment of Public Safety. Your many friends and colleagues join me in extending to you, your wife, Sue and your son our heartfelt best wishes for the future."



**Raymond Hamilton**

## Bernard Gazdzik retires from the agency after more than 31 years

Bernard Gazdzik retired from DPS on March 28 after serving the agency for more than 31 years.

Gazdzik began his career with DPS as a cadet officer on Oct. 3, 1976. Upon graduation from the Academy his first duty station was in the White Mountains where he served for six years in the St. Johns and Show Low areas.

Gazdzik then transferred to Criminal Investigations and worked in Liquor Enforcement, Organized Crime and the Special Investigations Unit. He promoted to sergeant in 1980 and served as an administrative sergeant for the Organized Crime Division. From this assignment he was temporarily assigned to the Arizona Department of Corrections, Inspector General's Office where he helped reorganize their Internal Investigations Unit.

Upon his return to the Department, Gazdzik was assigned to an Organized Crime Squad, and later held a field assignment in the Phoenix Metropolitan freeway system. He was temporarily assigned to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glenco, Ga., where he spent a year and a half developing 10 interdiction training films and three seminar programs.

His next assignment was with the Street Narcotics Unit, where he was eventually promoted to lieutenant in 1990. As lieutenant,

his first assignment was to serve as the executive officer to the Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy in Tucson.

In this assignment, he reported to the Governor's Office as part of a management analysis team titled Statewide Long-Term Improvement Project (Project Slim). Gazdzik then received an assignment to the Southern Narcotics District in Tucson and was later transferred to the Metropolitan Area Narcotics Team Interdiction Squads (MANTIS).

As a member of MANTIS, he was the on-scene commander for the largest narcotics seizure in Arizona history. This six-ton seizure of cocaine received national media attention and led to an international criminal investigation that yielded significant results including a \$6 million seizure.

Gazdzik transferred to the Flagstaff area in Criminal Investigations Northern District and later transferred to the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement District where he spent the last eight years of his career.

During his career, he received seven Director's Unit Citations, three Letters of Commendation, an Honorary Instructor Designation from the U.S. Department of Treasury, a citation from the Office of the Governor, and a Certificate of Appreciation from the Office of Drug Control and Policy Office of the President.



**Bernard Gazdzik**

Another notable accomplishment of his career was the development of the Christmas Bear Program sponsored by the Arizona Highway Patrol Association. This program began 14 years ago in Tucson and has expanded statewide involving over 27 hospitals and medical facilities. The Christmas Bear Program has reached out over the years to over 35,000 infirmed children and elderly and has brought significant recognition to the Department for its community outreach.

## DPS copes with hiring freeze mandated by Gov. Napolitano

by Kellen Chavez  
Digest Staff Writer

With the state budget deficit looking even bleaker than what was first estimated, the Department now must find ways to deal with the hiring freeze Gov. Janet Napolitano ordered in late February.

DPS Budget Officer Phil Case said, "We are going to need employees and supervisors and managers to get creative in terms of still getting the work done."

Napolitano ordered the freeze on Feb. 21, however, there are some DPS positions that will be exempt.

After working with Arizona Department of Administration (DOA) Director William Bell, positions pertaining to providing public safety, public health services and collecting or investing state revenues will all be exempt from the freeze.

For DPS this means that sworn positions for officer all the way through deputy director are exempt. Operational Communi-

cations positions from public safety call taker through police communications center manager are exempt. Crime lab positions criminalist through scientific analysis superintendent are exempt and all pilot positions are exempt as well.

Case said, "With some of these single position classifications it's not that we necessarily expect the person to leave, but we should have the ability to replace them if need be."

Beyond these positions, all other hires must be made on a case-by-case basis and must be submitted for approval through DOA.

This has proven difficult as Case pointed out that of the 38 positions submitted for individual approval, ranging across the board from Information Technology positions to Human Resources positions to Fleet positions, only four have been approved.

"I think that's just a testament to how

difficult the budget problem is," Case said.

Originally the deficit was estimated to be around \$800 million. For fiscal year 2008, Arizona had been projected to enjoy an 8 percent growth in State revenues. Case said that revenues ended up being around 2 or 3 percent less than the previous year.

He added, "The governor and the legislature estimate the deficit differently but I think they've agreed that this year's deficit is about \$1.2 billion."

He added that for the coming year, the deficit is projected to worsen before a projected improvement in 2010.

The best thing the Department can do is manage the present because, as Case is quick to point out, projections are meant as a guide and not fact.

"Things can change and are changing month to month. But these are only projec-

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## Checkmate ...

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getting rid of the bad so the good can grow, and we will continue to pull the weeds and make our communities safer.”

Overall, GIITEM reported arrests in 10 of the 15 counties in Arizona.

In addition to removing criminal gang members from the streets, the operation had a positive side impact.

“When you have officers in the neighborhoods actively looking for people it is a deterrent to crime,” said Zumbo.

He added that the spectrum of crimes listed on the warrants ranged from failure to appear in court or probation violations, all the way up to aggravated assault, kidnapping, weapons violations, etc.

Most importantly, however, this operation did not end with the press conference in March. This will be an ongoing effort to arrest gang members with active warrants where GIITEM will continue to rely on the assistance of multiple law enforcement agencies statewide to ensure the effort's success.



### Honor Guard Badge

Retired DPS Lt. Col. Larry Thompson (left) presents DPS Lt. Daniel Golden with the very first badge designed specifically for members of the DPS Honor Guard. Thompson presented the badge (far right) and 39 others just like it to Golden and other DPS Honor Guard members on March 20 on behalf of the DPS Retirees Coalition. The DPS Retirees Coalition funded the design and purchase of the special badges as a way of thanking the Honor Guard for their years of attendance and professionalism at events involving agency retirees which, sadly, has included numerous funerals. With the Honor Guard planing to expand to 40 individuals, a badge now exists for each member to use when wearing his or her Honor Guard uniform. The badges are not to be used on regular uniforms. The Honor Guard is coordinated by Lt. Golden.

## Annual BBQ for Special Olympics on April 24

The sixth annual DPS fund-raising cook-out benefiting Special Olympics will be held April 24 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the DPS headquarters building in Phoenix.

Tickets to the all-you-can-eat event, which will be catered by Famous Daves, will be \$10. They can be purchased on the day of the event.

For additional info, please contact Officer Jim Gallagher at 623-521-7612.

## E-mail spam ...

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you didn't send? This is spam - and the spammer probably got your e-mail address when a forwarded e-mail was sent out. When an e-mail appears in your email that has been forwarded a thousand times, delete it.

2. Do not post articles with your 'real' work e-mail address. If your job requires you to be in the public eye, or post events or other info to public spaces on the internet, you will receive spam. Bots, or computer programs, work full time to pull e-mail addresses off of web pages. If your address is found, you will receive spam. If your job requires your e-mail address to appear in public, call operations at ext 2421 and put in a ticket - I will help you work on a solution.

3. Do not reply to, open, or otherwise engage email that is spam. Just delete it. Opening spam, forwarding to me, or otherwise triggering any bot that can verify it's an active e-mail address will only ensure you get more spam. Spammers make money by selling lists of 'active' e-mail addresses.

Spam is unpleasant. And it's also expensive - it takes time and processing power away from our servers, and if its not deleted, stays on backup tapes for the life of that backup. But we can protect ourselves. And the best way is to be a good steward of our DPS resources. Keep your email for work use only - not only will it keep email operating efficiently, it'll help reduce spam.

## FBINAA Corner

On March 14, the Arizona Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates (FBINAA) held an appreciation barbeque at Sahuaro Ranch Park in Glendale. Over 120 people attended.

The Chapter's Spring training is scheduled for April 16-18 in Lake Havasu. Training will include Southwest Border Violence, I-35 bridge collapse in Minneapolis and the

author of "Blackhawk Down". Mr. Mike Durant will be the featured speaker.

On April 24 from 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Arizona Chapter is sponsoring the DPS annual barbecue to raise funds for the Arizona Special Olympics.

You can now pay your FBINAA memberships dues online. Just go to [FBINAA.org](http://FBINAA.org) and click "Membership Dues."

## Hiring Freeze ...

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tions. After all, they projected [positive] revenues for this year and they're way off.

"But they could be off for the future years as well so we have a huge problem."

While promotions along the exempted position lines will not be affected, the freeze may also put a strain on internal transfers should a specific position be vacated as well as promotions.

Case said, "We're trying to get some clarification especially on the issue of transfers. Certain internal transfers, even within exempted classifications may not be allowed to occur."

"As an example, if an employee is being transferred from a position that's grant funded to a position that's state funded, we may not be permitted to make that because it uses up state moneys that would otherwise be returned to the state."

"So even if operationally we would like to make that transfer we may not be able to."

In terms of promotions, those exempted job lines such as officer and dispatcher will not be affected, but the Department is still seeking clarification on how other internal promotions will be handled.

With all of these restraints, though, and while the Department's budget may feel the effect in the next couple years, Case said that DPS has every indication that cutbacks will not be made by laying off employees.

"We expect to handle position reductions through attrition," he said.

Case said the governor and legislature have come up with a number of strategies to balance the budget.

Some strategies propose that cash payments that the state would make on certain education construction be paid over a couple years. The state plans to use part of the \$700 million saved in the budget stabilization fund, often referred to as the "Rainy Day Fund," to help in dire times like this.

Numerous ideas have been explored, but none have been chosen as the official course of action yet.

Case said the very earliest he could see the freeze lifted would be the start of the next fiscal year, July 1, however, he has concerns the freeze could be retained beyond that if revenues continue as they have.

He added, "The sooner we can get a solution on the 2008 and the 2009 budget the better."



## IIMPACT ...

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One of the most important aspects of IIMPACT, however, is that it responds only when the situation meets a certain criteria.

"IIMPACT responds to cases involving violent organizations. We're not a drop house-response unit. There are certain criteria of violence such as extortion, kidnapping, aggravated assault, sexual assault and other violent crimes that have to be associated with these drop houses in order for us to respond."

In addition to IIMPACT, two other squads serve within the Immigration Enforcement District: the Arizona Fraudulent ID Task Force (AFIT) and the Detention and Transportation Unit.

The use of fraudulent identities goes hand in hand, business-wise, with illegal immigration operations.

Consisting of 12 detectives and two supervisors, AFIT takes direct aim at such operations.

Chung said, "In order for organizations to take part in human smuggling, they offer fraudulent identification. They just add that

fee on when those undocumented immigrants try to get to the United States.

"We want to target the manufacturers and sellers. We want to go after the organization both operationally and financially."

The Detention and Transportation Unit, which has one supervisor and four officer vacancies, is the third part of IIMPACT Arizona! and will help assist IIMPACT and AFIT detectives in the never-ending battle and burden of sending UDAs back to Mexico.

Chung said, "What they [detention transport officers] will do is allow the investigators to investigate the crime and the detention/transport officers will respond to the scene and take those undocumented immigrants, process them through ICE and get them, most likely, voluntarily returned back to Mexico. It will take a lot of the burden off of the investigators."

The Immigration Enforcement District is not the end-all solution to the ever-growing human smuggling problem in Arizona.

However, with the help of other agencies and attentive tips from citizens, IIMPACT Arizona! hopes to do great things in helping the problem.



## A history of the creation of the DPS Officer Monument & Memorial

by Vickie Williams

DPS Executive Assistant

Retired DPS Detective Frank Shankwitz was on a trip to Albany, N.Y., attending a homicide school.

There was a small museum that he visited while in Albany and at the museum was a New York trooper statue to honor officers killed in the line of duty. This trip to a small museum created the concept of the DPS Officer Monument and Memorial.

Had Detective Shankwitz never visited the museum, and brought back the inspiration of a DPS Officer Memorial, it would most likely not exist today.

In 1995, the Officer Monument Committee was founded by the Associated Highway Patrolmen of Arizona which is now named the Arizona Highway Patrol Association (AHPA).

The Memorial Committee at this time was only a handful of members. This committee was formed to find funding sources for a statue and memorial walls to honor DPS officers killed in the line of duty and to also give tribute to all DPS officers, retired and active.

The walls are a memorial to DPS officers killed in the line of duty. The statue stands for sworn DPS who have served, are now in service, and those yet to serve. The DPS Officer Monument Statue and Memorial walls would never have been a reality today except for the unrelenting dedication of the committee members, the AHPA and monetary supporters.

The AHPA funded "seed" money in the amount of \$3,000 to begin work on this tribute to officers past, present and future. The amount needed for the statue and base for the statute was \$100,000 indicating this was going to be a huge project.

On Feb. 1, 1996, the Officer Monument Committee was in its first official stages of formation and meetings. This was the first meeting where minutes were taken. Attending this meeting were, Frank and Kitty Shankwitz, Frank Delaney, Fritz Renter, Mary Baumann, Susan Snow, Gene Spilman and Vickie Dail (Williams).

We were in the process of having a video made on the work and process of the making of the statue starring artist Bill Nebeker. Sgt. Chuck Herrera was the artist who drew the original raw draft of the officer monument and base. This drawing was given to the statue artist Bill Nebeker of Prescott. He was also provided an actual DPS badge, hat and gun belt so that everything on the statue would be to form for a DPS officer.

Concerns, however, had surfaced from sworn personnel that the monument was specific to male gender. The committee discussed these concerns and it was determined that the statue is symbolic of an officer. It was not feasible at the time to have a second female statue but the Department agreed to donate space for a second statue. The memorial walls are for sworn only who have been killed in the line of duty.

Because donations from Department employees were not likely to amount to the \$100,000-plus needed, committee members spearheaded numerous ideas for promotions for funding.

Eddie Basha agreed to let committee members place plastic coin drop containers at check out registers at grocery stores for donations of cash and currency. These were monitored by committee members and netted approximately \$5,000 by May 1997.

The AHPA donated a Sig Sauer weapon for a raffle, also raffled were National Finals Rodeo tickets. We made contacts for public



### DPS Officer Monument Statue

service announcements and newspaper advertisements. A fleet vendor list was obtained from the Arizona Department of Administration and approximately 500 solicitation letters for donations were mailed to various establishments explaining the goal and purpose of the DPS Officer Monument Statue and Memorial.

Minutes of meetings reported that if by January 1997, \$50,000 had not been received via donations for the statue both from officers, civilians and private entities, then the efforts would be abolished and all monies received will be returned to donors.

By this time, DPS Sgt. Bill Whalen became co-chairman of the committee and obtained a donor of approximately 600-plus pieces of artwork to be used in a silent auction to raise money for the Officer Memorial/Monument.

By May 23, 1997, the committee had achieved a huge milestone when Nebeker was given the first installment to begin work on the statue due to the success of the silent art auction. By raising enough money to issue this installment, we now knew the Monument/Statue would become a reality.

It was on its way to becoming real instead of mere hope and determination. Another major event to raise funds for the monument/memorial was a motorcycle run scheduled for Sept. 28, 1997. T-Shirts promoting the motorcycle rally, a barbecue, donations for door prizes and food for the event were coordinated.

Flyers about the rally were distributed at all major motorcycle dealerships, repair shops and retail stores. "W" Steven Martin arranged for the KNIX party bus, the grill for the food and music to be

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## Memorial ...

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at the finality of the rally.

Gov. Rose Mofford was our honorary attendee and had donated numerous items for a raffle. We had received word from the DPS Retirees Coalition, Retired Maj. Ernie Johnson, that the Coalition was going to donate another \$1,000.

By the Nov. 20, 1997 meeting, the committee was in the final stages of deciding the location for the statue. The design of the monument walls was decided regarding the placement of a DPS star and shoulder patch on either wall.

The meeting on Feb. 5, 1998 finalized measurements for the base of the statue and the finish for the memorial walls. It was reported at this meeting the committee received \$5,000 from the Mens Art Council and \$1,000 from Copperstate.

Here we decided the unveiling of the statue and the ceremony would be held on May 7, at 10:00 a.m., at the site of the statue. To honor the families of DPS fallen officers, the AHPA provided all of the funding for the ceremony and hosted a "Survivors Luncheon" after the event where surviving family members, committee and honorary members, executive staff and others could gather.

The ceremony, wreath, flowers, refreshments and programs are still funded by the AHPA at the DPS Fallen Officers' Memorial Ceremony each year. The Survivor's Luncheon still occurs.

From the time when Frank Shankwitz brought the idea to the AHPA and the first meetings in 1995 to the final dedication ceremony in May 1998 for the creation of the Monument/Memorial, there were numerous concerns and obstacles, along with many moments of feeling we may be defeated, regardless of the dedication by the committee to make the monument/memorial happen.

If it were not for every single committee and honorary member's dedication, the supporters who gave and the AHPA supporting every idea and event and standing behind this project to the fullest, the monument and memorial walls would not be standing today.

Interested parties who want to donate to the Officer Memorial Fund may do so by contacting the AHPA. Monies are used solely for the upkeep, cleaning and other maintenances required to maintain the statue and memorial walls.

### Original Officer Monument Committee Members

**Members:** Mary Baumann, Reserve Frank Delaney, retired Major Ernie Johnson, Officer Ken Nelson, Officer Tom Powers, Fritz Renter, retired Col. Lloyd Robertson, Susan Snow and Gene Spilman. **Honorary Members:** Arizona DPS Retirees Coalition Sworn, Associated Highway Patrolmen of Arizona, Eddie Basha, Thomas S. Jonovich, Sen. John Kaites, Bennett Kopp, Representative Wesley Marsh, Jr., W. Steven Martin, former Gov. Rose Mofford, Greg Robinson, Esq., Robert E. Shoneberger and Ed Wren. **Secretary:** Vickie Dail (Williams). **Treasurer:** Kitty Shankwitz. **Chairmen:** retired Officer Frank Shankwitz and retired Sgt. Bill Whalen.

## Group to honor tenth year of memorial with commemorative coin

*Coin can be purchased at the upcoming DPS Fallen Officers' Memorial Ceremony on May 5*  
by DPS Detective Bob Gilbert

As we can never forget the DPS officers who gave their lives during the call to duty in protecting our public safety, we continue an annual tradition of honoring those officers during a memorial ceremony.

That annual memorial ceremony has been held in front of the DPS Officer Monument Statue and Memorial since it was first dedicated in 1998. On May 5, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., AHPA in partnership with DPS will be hosting this year's 10th Annual DPS Fallen Officer's Memorial.

The event usually lasts about one hour and will be held at the Department of Public Safety State Headquarters Building, 2102 W. Encanto Blvd. in Phoenix.

Friends and family of our fallen officers will be attending the ceremony. This ceremony is our opportunity to pay respect to those friends and family members and to honor the sacrifice made by each of our fallen DPS officers.

This yearly event gives us a chance to pay tribute to each fallen officer and to remind ourselves of our own mortality in the work we all do daily. Knowing their loved one is and will be always remembered and honored is one of the best feelings for a friend and family member of a fallen officer. Your attendance at the ceremony on May 5 will help make the ceremony memorable for everyone.

As said, AHPA, in partnership with DPS, has been hosting a memorial service for DPS fallen Officers for 10 years now. To commemorate the Memorial's 10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary and provide a symbol for remembering our fallen comrades at DPS, a commemorative challenge coin will be available at the memorial service.

This will be a limited edition coin available for \$10 per coin.

Once all of the coins are sold, no additional coins will be cast. Any money received in excess of the cost of purchasing the coins, will go directly into the Monument Fund. The AHPA created this fund to pay for any upkeep and maintenance cost for the monument. Last year, the AHPA used the extra funds to have all of the plaques cleaned and resurfaced as well as having the artist clean and seal the statue finish or to help pay for annual memorial event cost.

The 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary memorial challenge coin has the DPS officer's badge on the front with an overlying rose.

The words "In Memory Of Those Who Made The Ultimate Sacrifice" surround the outer edge of the coin. The scroll under the badge is blank so the person buying the coin can leave it blank to remember all fallen DPS officers or have the badge number engraved on the scroll of the fallen officer they wish to commemorate.

The back of the coin has a likeness of the monument's statue with the AHPA logo and DPS patch featured. This reflects the partnership between the AHPA and the DPS in establishing the monument and their efforts to annually hold this ceremony. The bottom edge of the coin depicts that 10-year span of "1998-2008". The words "To Officers Past - A Tribute, To Officers Present - A Reminder, To Officers Yet to Come - A Legacy" surround the edge of the coin and quote the words engraved on the monument.

Additionally, the annual Peace Officers Memorial Service will be held May 5, 2008, 7:00 p.m., at the Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza located adjacent to the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix.

This service will take place in front of the Law Enforcement Memorial and will honor all fallen Arizona officers.

Please join in remembering and commemorating our fallen DPS officers during both of these events.



## Letters

### Dear Director Vanderpool:

On Feb. 23, 2008, numerous Department of Public Safety officers assisted the Arizona State Capitol Police with a planned demonstration at Wesley Bolin Plaza involving a Serbian group protesting the declaration of independence of Kosovo. Intelligence was obtained that this demonstration could become violent if the opposing sides were to meet at this event. On very short notice an operation plan was developed by the Arizona State Capitol Police and Department of Public Safety in which officers from both agencies were assigned to ensure that the event was safe and secure. I would like to commend the following Department of Public Safety officers for their performance and professionalism during this event: Officer Roger Wilson, Sgt. Kerry Jonovich, Officer Todd Parenteau, Officer Estevan Roman, Officer Dalin Dorris, Officer James Woodull, Sgt. James Messerly, Officer Frank Wilson, Officer Steve Dykman, Officer Brian Jahntz, Officer David Fewbes and Officer Matthew Villa.

I am pleased to report that there were no incidents at this event and that the operation concluded successfully. Thank you for your support and that of your staff in helping to keep the Arizona State Capitol a safe and secure place.

**Thomas Lane**

**Chief of Police, Arizona State Capitol Police**

### Dear Director Vanderpool:

We, in Buckeye, find it important to share with you a story whereby your DPS Ranger Team assisted our officers. The team acted in a manner that was in keeping with the highest ideals of professionalism and inter-agency cooperation.

On Feb. 8, 2008, the Buckeye Police Department received a report that a dead body was found on top of the White Tank Mountains and inaccessible by vehicle. Lt. Derek Arnson contacted DPS and your

Ranger team was dispatched to the area.

When your team arrived they took our reporting party on board to help them locate the remains. Once completed, they radioed GPS coordinates to clear up a jurisdictional issue with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. The team then transported Lt. Mark Mann and Detective Doug Dodge to a landing area near the body. Once they completed their investigation, the Ranger Team returned and dropped a net for them to secure the remains and other evidentiary items. The team then flew the body down to a landing zone where the Medical Examiner's Office investigators took it. The team then returned our detectives to our command post.

Without the help of the DPS Ranger Team, we would not have been able to make this recovery before dusk and significant manpower and other resources would have to have been deployed into the next day.

**Dan Saban, chief of police Buckeye Police Department**

**Mark Mann, lieutenant Buckeye Police Department**

### Dear Director Vanderpool:

It was with great pleasure that I recently saw a report indicating that in 2007, Arizona's Department of Public Safety (DPS) experienced its lowest number of highway fatalities in a decade. As secretary of transportation, and a resident of Arizona, I want to congratulate you on your leadership efforts and the effectiveness of DPS and your partners in reducing fatalities on these roadways. This reduction in fatalities has spared many families the tragic consequences of highway crashes.

The U.S. Department of Transportation plans to continue its support of Arizona's many highway safety programs through our National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) regional office and Arizona GOHS.

I know that the state's traffic-safety enforcement program and efforts to increase safety-belt use helped contribute to this accomplishment.

**Mary Peters**

**U.S. Secretary of Transportation**



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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## Down the Highways

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**April 1973**

At the request of Casa Grande City Manager Dave Kincannon, DPS Director Hegarty appointed Capt. Philip Morgan as acting Casa Grande chief of police and Sgt. John Cozad as assistant police chief.

During his April 24 announcement, Kincannon said the two DPS officers would remain in these positions until a permanent successor was found to replace the police chief who was recently demoted to sergeant.

**March 1978**

DPS officers were placed on standby March 8 as farmers across the nation began gathering in Nogales for a one-day blockade at the U.S./Mexico border.

DPS commanders said officers would be mobilized only if assistance was requested by Santa Cruz County Sheriff Jaime Teyechea, whose department consists of 12 men.

Some 1,000 farmers participated in the peaceful blockade conducted March 9 to voice their demands for higher prices for farm products and an international trade policy that does not create unfair competition.

**April 1983**

A 50-minute chase of a speeding truck that damaged five law-enforcement vehicles, including four DPS patrol cars, ended early April 2 near Cashion with the arrest of a Phoe-

nix man after the truck he was driving overturned.

The chase began when DPS Officer Larry Verdugo attempted to stop the speeding and weaving pickup on S.R. 85 near El Mirage Road. Other DPS officers participating in the pursuit were Paul Anderson, Ray Buttes and Spenser Johnston.

**March 1988**

A motor home struck a tractor-trailer rig causing a fiery four-car pileup which killed a Las Vegas man, his wife and their four grandchildren March 7 on U.S. 93 near Wikieup.

The six were en route to a family reunion when the crash occurred. The death toll of seven also included a Phoenix woman who was driving a "pilot" vehicle escorting the tractor-trailer rig.

The children's 24-year-old mother was the only occupant of the motor home to survive the crash which occurred when the motor home, southbound on U.S. 93, apparently swerved off the right side of the highway, over corrected and came back onto the roadway, striking the trailer portion of the northbound semi-truck.

The motor home then hit the "pilot" pickup, pushing the pickup back onto another vehicle that was following behind it, said Sgt. Allan Schmidt, DPS media relations officer.

Schmidt said the motor home, pickup and third vehicle all burned.

**April 1993**

A Show Low man, who accepted a plea agreement in the traffic death of DPS Sgt. David Zesiger, was sentenced April 19 by a U.S. district court judge to more than four years in federal prison.

U.S. District Court Judge Robert Broomfield sentenced Calvin Dayea, 30, to a term of 51 months for involuntary manslaughter and assault in the July 3, 1992, wreck near McNary which killed Zesiger and injured six others in a vehicle following Zesiger.

The sentencing was part of a plea agreement reached Jan. 12 by Dayea and a U.S. prosecuting attorney assigned to the case.

**March 1998**

While investigating a crash March 1 south of Kingman on U.S. 93, Highway Patrol Officer Frosty Mueller was not satisfied with the evasive answers he was receiving from the DUI suspect whose vehicle crossed the center line and struck a southbound tractor-trailer.

Mueller obtained a search warrant for the vehicle and found various types of identification, propelling him to take his investigation a step further. That extra step revealed that the DUI suspect was an escapee from the Arizona Department of Corrections.